

## INFORMAL COMMENT

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## PATENTS

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
 Serial No: SCHUBERT W. ) Art Unit: 1641  
 Filed: 09/613,964 ) Examiner: PADMANABHAN K.  
 For: JULY 11, 2000 )  
 A DEVICE FOR BINDING MOLECULES, MOLECULAR GROUPS, MOLECULAR  
 PARTS, AND/OR CELLS

To Mr. Padmanabhan

Proposal

Dear Mr. Padmanabhan ... for your consideration after your suggestions:

Proposed Amendments to claims 26, 27 and 33 (all other claims remain as they were  
 after the prior Response

Claims 1-25 (Cancelled)

Claim 26 (Currently Amended). A device for delivering a liquid to a target structure,  
 wherein the device comprises:

- a) an object holder thermostat;
- b) an object holder, wherein said object holder is operably  
 in contact with an said object holder thermostat;
- bc) a stretchable sheet disposed between said object holder  
 and at least one rail;
- d) at least one strip disposed between said object holder and  
 said stretchable sheet; and
- ee) a duct, wherein said duct is defined by at least said  
 object holder, said strip and said stretchable sheet,  
 wherein said at least one rail is mounted on said stretchable  
 sheet thereby cooperating with at least the stretchable

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sheet and the object holder to define the geometry of said duct, and wherein said duct has a liquid inlet and a liquid outlet.

Claim 27 (currently amended). The device of Claim 26, ~~wherein the device is operably connected to~~ further comprising a means for delivering a liquid to said duct, said means for delivering being selected from a plunger mechanism and a pump.

Claim 28 (Previously Submitted). The device of Claim 26, wherein said liquid outlet is operably connected to a discharge pump.

Claim 29 (Previously Submitted). The device of Claim 26, wherein said object holder thermostat comprises a Peltier element.

Claim 30 (Previously Submitted). The device of Claim 26, further comprising a vessel disposed to receive a liquid from said liquid outlet.

Claim 31 (Previously Submitted). The device of Claim 30, wherein said vessel is operably contacted with a vessel thermostat.

Claim 32 (Previously Submitted). The device of Claim 31, wherein said vessel thermostat comprises a Peltier element.

Claim 33 (Previously Submitted). The device of Claim 26, ~~further comprising where~~ said at least one strip comprises at least one stretchable strip disposed between said object holder and said stretchable sheet.

Claims 34 – 41 (Cancelled)

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Mr. Padmanabhan ... you mentioned that you had new art which you believe rendered the prior claim 26 unpatentable ... We ask that, when you perform the Examiner's Amendment, you cite that art, making it of record, and indicating that the newly amended claims (as above) are allowable in spite of that new art. Please discuss this with me when you call about this informal comment. THANKS.

Louis T. Isaf  
Reg. No. 29,078  
Attorney for Applicant

WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE  
P.O. Box 7037  
Atlanta, GA 30357-0037

Tel. 404-962-7523